

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. *cancelled*

2. (currently amended) A method of generating speech coding parameters of an erased frame in a bitstream-based front end of a speech recognition system, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting an erased frame;

measuring the Euclidean distance between the line spectrum pairs (LSPs) of adjacent frames (n-1) and n;

defining a steady-state threshold T associated with an acceptable difference between the LSPs of the adjacent frames;

deleting the LSPs of the n^{th} frame in an observation sequence ~~or if~~ if the measured distance is less than or equal to T; and

generating the speech coding parameters with a standard hidden Markov model process.

3. *cancelled*

4. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 2 wherein in detecting a frame erasure, an erasure is declared when the bits most sensitive to error within a frame are determined to be in error.

5. (original) The method as defined in claim 4 wherein the bits most sensitive to error in a frame in a bitstream-based speech recognition system include the line spectrum pair information bits and the gain information bits.